

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3975

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DIA WASH DC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU

SUBJ: MAKARIOS, KANELLOPOULOS ADDRESS GREEK CYPRIOT RALLY

1. EVENING RALLY JULY 20 IN NICOSIA'S MAIN SQUARE COMMEMORATED SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF TURKISH INVASION AND CLIMAXED A WEEK OF LOW-KEY DEMONSTRATIONS AND MEETINGS.

2. INVITED QUEST, EX-PREMIER OF GREECE, PANAYOTIS KANELLOPOULOS IN OPENING SPEECH PRAISED MAKARIOS' LEADERSHIP AND CONDEMNED INVASION AS "CONTRARY TO REAL INTERESTS OF TURKISH NATION."

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IN CONCLUSION HE ENVISIONED A CYPRUS WHICH COULD BE AN INSULAR

SWITZERLAND IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN WHICH WILL BE IN INTERESTS OF ALL STATES IN THE AREA.

3. SECOND SPEAKER OF EVENING WAS ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS WHO PRAISED KANELLOPOULOS AS "PATRIOT, INTELLECTUAL IDEALIST AND MAN OF VISION" AND THEN LAUNCHED INTO RHETORICAL, IMPASSIONED REPLAY OF NATIONAL THEMES: STRESSING CONTINUED NEED FOR COURAGE AND PERSEVERENCE TO DEFEND "ALTARS AND HEARTHS", REAFFIRMING NECESSITY FOR LONG STRUGGLE IN FACE OF TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE, DEFENDING POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING CYPRUS TO BE BASICALLY WESTERN COUNTRY. ARCHBISHOP SAID GREEKS WOULD ACCEPT COMPROMISE BUT NOT SURRENDER. HE EXPRESSED PESSIMISM AS TO PROBABLE RESULTS OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AND PREDICTED IF THEY FAIL GOC WILL HAVE RECOURSE TO UN. IF UN PROVES INEFFECTIVE, "THERE IS A LOT...WE SHALL DO", BUT HE DID NOT DEVELOP THIS FURTHER. HE WARNED AGAINST ALLOWING ELECTION POLITICS TO DESTROY GREEK CYPRIOT UNITY OR TO GIVE TURKS IMPRESSION FROM DEBATE ON

"LONG STRUGGLE" AND "REALISM" THAT GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE IS ABOUT TO COLLAPSE.

4. COMMENT: MAKARIOS' APPEARANCE WAS THE HIGH POINT OF EVENING. AUDIENCE, ESTIMATED AROUND 8,000 REPEATEDLY AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY INTERRUPTED HIM WITH APPLAUSE, ALTHOUGH A PRO-LYSSARIDES GROUP BOOED HIS REFERENCE TO CYPRUS BELONGING TO THE WEST. HIS SPEECH CONTAINED NOTHING WE HAVE NOT HEARD BEFORE BUT WAS AMONG HIS MOST THEATRICAL. HIS SUBJECT MATTER WAS APPROPRIATE TO THIS, FOR GREEK CYPRIOTS, SAD ANNIVERSARY. HIS ONLY DEPARTURE FROM THIS THEME WAS APPEAL FOR UNITY DESPITE COMING ELECTIONS AND HIS DEFENSE OF "LONG STRUGGLE" POLICY AGAINST THOSE WHO, BY ADVOCATING AN EARLY SOLUTION WOULD TRASONOUSLY LEGITIMIZE TURKISH FAITS ACCOMPLIS. THE ACCUSATION AGAINST CLERIDES WAS CLEAR TO MAKARIOS' AUDIENCE.
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